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2025 ELECTIONS

For the Board of Library Trustees: David Coughlan

WILL DOWD | STAFF WRITER

February 1, 2025 . 4:15 PM — 2 min read

David Coughlan COURTESY PHOTO

How many years have you lived in Winchester? My wife and I first moved to Winchester in 1986, and have lived here ever since. Both children graduated from Winchester schools.

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Please describe your professional background and education. Nearly all of my career was spent in commercial real estate investment, development and management. I have a BS in Resource Economics from the University of New Hampshire, with a focus on Land Use. While at UNH I worked part time in the Library for three years.

What Winchester town positions (appointed or elected) have you held, and for how long? This is the only position I have held. I was originally appointed trustee to fill a position for one year, after a trustee relocated. I was then elected to a full three-year term; this will be my second election.

What are the primary issues motivating your candidacy? The library is an incredible resource for our town, and my goal is to help ensure that it continues to be managed effectively, with appropriate staffing, and access to as wide a range of books, periodicals and information as possible.

Can you share any volunteer work or civic engagement experiences that have shaped your perspective and prepared you for this role? I am on the Board of Trustees of Native Plant Trust. I also volunteer mentoring small businesses with SCORE, and I volunteer with SOAR, which provides project based consulting for nonprofits in the Boston area.

Library Board of Trustees-specific questions

How would you assess and respond to Winchester's evolving community needs while ensuring library services remain relevant? The library is constantly evaluating our offerings to reflect what the community needs/wants. Two examples: our Library of Things, where patrons can borrow tools to help them with cooking, home improvement, hobbies, etc.; and we are working on expanding our Chinese language offerings, since many Winchester residents speak the language as their native tongue, and would like to read books in that language.

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What strategies would you employ to ensure fiscal responsibility while exploring additional funding opportunities? The trustees spend quite a bit of time working with the executive director and her team to review and approve the annual budget. Additionally, we review financial information regularly to make sure we are working within the budget, as well as suggesting ways to reduce costs and provide the maximum value to Winchester taxpayers.

How would you advocate for the library to increase public support and awareness of its offerings? The library sends weekly emails outlining current offerings, upcoming programs and events, etc. There's also regular posting on social media, which I hope all town residents who use the platforms follow. We'd like to see more utilization by teens, and the staff is working on ways to encourage teen usage and engagement. Overall, the library receives great support from the community, which we appreciate.

Have questions for Coughlan? Contact him at winlibtrustees@gmail.com

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2025 ELECTIONS

Write-in votes, Winchester election results now final

NEWS

Newcomers win spots on Winchester Select Bo Committee

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Election 2025 is now over. The results from the March 22 townwide elections have been certified by the Town Clerk's office. Town Clerk MaryEllen Marshall released the final numbers March 27, with 17.3% of Winchester residents casting a vote in the election, or 2,951 votes, out of

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March 27, 2025

It was the perfect Election Day — warm and sunny, with a steady stream of residents going into Winchester High School to cast their ballots. Preliminary results for the March 22 townwide election show 17.2 % of residents voted on Saturday. That's 2,933 votes cast, out of the town'

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March 22, 2025

NEWS

Winchester Planning Board write-ins emerge ahead of Saturday election

Winchester voters head to the polls Saturday for municipal elections featuring contested races for Select Board and School Committee alongside an unexpected development — two write-in candidates vying for a Planning Board seat that initially have no contenders on the ballot. The March 22 election will take place at Winchester High

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March 21, 2025

NEWS

Philip Frattaroli to be Winchester's 12th town moderator since 1915

It's a foregone conclusion. Philip Frattaroli will be Winchester's next town moderator. Sure, the townwide election is just days away, but Frattaroli is running unopposed for the seat being vacated by Heather von Mering, who has been in the role since March 2020. "I decided to take it

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EVENTS

Celebrate Women's History Month with Girls Leading Change

The following was submitted by the Network for Social Justice: To mark Women's History Month and International Women's Day in 2026, the Network for Social Justice is collaborating with club leaders from Winchester High School and members of the Community Health team from La Colaborativa in Chelsea and

March 4, 2026

NEWS

Winchester School Committee candidates bring contrasting backgrounds to Thursday forum

Two candidates for Winchester's School Committee will face voters at a forum as the district navigates a new literacy curriculum, budget pressures and questions about student mental health. Heather von Mering and John Bellaire are competing for an open seat on the School Committee, which oversees a budget von

WILL DOWD | STAFF WRITER

March 4, 2026

FEATURES

'Chicago: Teen Edition' dances onto the Winchester High School stage

By Talia Ho | Correspondent Fame. Fortune. And all that jazz. This spring, Winchester

EVENTS

Ripley Chapel in Winchester presents 'Syldason: You Are Welcome Here'

The following was submitted by the Ripley Chapel at First Congregational Church: On

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High School presents “Chicago: Teen Edition,” a bold musical that explores celebrity culture, media manipulation, and the cost of ambition. This iconic production is set in the 1920s. Performances will take place on March 13 and 14

SPECIAL TO THE NEWS
March 4, 2026

Friday, March 13, beginning at 7:30 p.m., live in-person and live streamed from the stunning Ripley Chapel at First Congregational Church, Winchester, 21 Church St., join in with Syldason, a duo concert featuring Sylvie Zakarian,

March 4, 2026

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